## Housing Task Group Charter Transitions to Adult Living Implementation Team

**Group Members:** Richard Walker, Chair, Jennifer Calcut, Eric Jenkins, Jane Lewis, Rich Dimick, Jim Anderson, Jayne Wolfe, Pat Berckman, Mekin Mathes, Patti Van Wagner,

**Background Supporting the Housing Task Group:** A youth leadership summit on "Transitions to Adult Living" was held in June 2003. At that summit youth met to determine what their top concerns were in connection with transitioning from foster care to adult living. The youth addressed needs and goals in the areas of education, employment, personal life issues and housing. These youth highlighted areas of concern and desired goals in connection with their needs. In response to the needs of youth transitioning into adulthood, task groups have been formed to accomplish goals in a timely manner. (Year One of Utah's Transitions to Adult Living Support Network Five Year Plan, October 2003)

**Purpose:** It is acknowledged that youth leaving foster care face a significant risk of homelessness. One of the biggest challenges for youth is finding and maintaining affordable and safe housing.

## Tasks:

- Identify and assess the statewide housing options for foster youth leaving care.
- Identify the resources and housing options needed to meet the housing needs of foster youth and youth aging out of the foster care system.
- Identify costs and funding sources to assist youth to pay initial housing expenses (i.e. first and last month rent, etc.).
- Develop partnerships with housing authorities, housing providers, developers, and others to develop a full continuum of housing options.

**Authority of Housing Task Group - Scope of decision-making:** This group will receive ongoing direction from the Implementation Team until completion of assigned tasks. Task Group will present recommendations and proposals to the Implementation Team for approval prior to implementation.

## **Deliverables/Reporting Requirements:**

- 1. The task completion date for the Housing Task Group is undetermined at this time.
- 2. The Housing Task Group will report progress to the Implementation Team on a regular basis.
- **3.** By February 29, 2004, the Task Group will establish a deadline for completion of the above tasks and report the date to the Implementation Team.

**Special Provisions/Tenure:** Individuals that are chosen or who volunteer to complete tasks and participate in this Task Group will be at the discretion of the agency they represent and the Implementation Team. This Task Group may solicit staff and stakeholder input and involvement as needed to complete tasks.

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